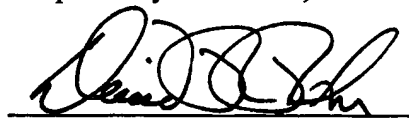


Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are ready for examination and in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12/5/00



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